



# The Judge Advocate General's School

## 2022 National Security Law Writing Competition

### TOPIC: How National Security Law Impacts America's Strategic Competition in the Gray Zone

Deadline for Submissions: 14 April 2022

**Overview:** The Air Force Judge Advocate General's School (AFJAGS), in partnership with the Air Force JAG School Foundation, Inc., is pleased to announce its seventh annual writing competition for students, practitioners, academics and policy-makers to provide unique perspectives and insights on matters of national security law.

**Topic:** How National Security Law Impacts America's Strategic Competition in the Gray Zone.

This year's writing competition topic encourages writing on the issues surrounding the effect of the law on gray zone operations. Both the 2017 National Security Strategy and the current Interim National Security Strategic Guidance identify China's aggressiveness regionally and globally. Many aspects of this competition with China incorporate state and non-state actors, and falls between the traditional legal lanes of peace and war.

This year's writing competition asks writers to explore how international and domestic law impacts America's strategic competition in the gray zone. We encourage papers on a wide variety of issues under this topic's broad heading. For example, the author may focus solely on the United States, or the United States' response to gray zone legal issues involving China, Russia, or any other relevant actors. The Air Force Judge Advocate General's School *will not hold these papers for publication*. Winners are free to seek publication in the law review or journal of their choice.

**Prizes:** The prize awards will be provided by the Air Force JAG School Foundation, Inc. AFJAGS reserves the right to make no award in the event that the submitted articles do not meet minimum requirements and standards as determined by AFJAGS.

- **First Place** – \$1,500
- **Second Place** – \$1,000
- **Third Place** – \$500

**Deadline:** Entries must be submitted by **1630 Central Time on 14 April 2022**. Winners will be selected and notified at or shortly before the 2022 Morehouse Lecture (normally held in August).

**Eligibility:** Failure to abide by these eligibility standards will result in the submission being rejected.

- **Who Can Apply** – Competition is open to all U.S. and international law school students and graduates.
- **Only Original and Previously Unpublished Papers** – If the paper has been submitted for publication in another forum, this must be noted in the submission. In addition, if, after submission, the paper is submitted or accepted for publication in another forum, AFJAGS must be notified. Papers prepared for law school or professional military education credit are eligible provided they represent original work.
- **Only One Author** – Jointly authored papers are not eligible.
- **Reviewed Papers** – Entrants may have others review and critique their work, but the submission must be the entrant's own product. The name of the reviewing professor or lawyer must be noted on the entry.
- **AFJAGS Faculty** – Members of the faculty of AFJAGS shall not participate in the contest or review any entry on behalf of an entrant.
- **Multiple Entries Not Permitted** – Only one paper may be submitted per entrant.

**Format:** Failure to abide by these format standards will result in the submission being rejected.

- **Word Count** – Entries must be a minimum of 3,000 words and a maximum of 6,000 words. This **does NOT** include title page, citations, footnotes, and the separate cover page noted below. Entries under the word minimum or above the word maximum will be rejected.
- **Font** – The text of the entry must be double-spaced, with 12-point Times New Roman font for body text, 10-point Times New Roman font for citation text, and 1-inch margins.
- **Sources** – Sources must be cited in footnotes according to *The Bluebook: A Uniform System of Citation*.

**Entry Procedure:** Each submission must include a separate cover page with:

- **Entrant's Name,**
- **Rank** (if military),
- **Mailing and E-mail Addresses,** and
- **Phone Number.**

The entrant's name and other identifying markings **must not** appear on any other page of the submitted entry. Submissions must be sent via e-mail to [afloa.afjags@us.af.mil](mailto:afloa.afjags@us.af.mil) as a Microsoft Word attachment.

**Judging:** A distinguished panel of experts will select the winning entries from among those submitted. Judges will evaluate works submitted using standards of quality applicable to traditional academic writing, with emphasis on the following:

- **Originality** – Does the work break new ground and advance the body of scholarship on law and policy in the national security arena?
- **Organization** – Does the work clearly define a problem and present a solution within a logical contextual framework?
- **Persuasiveness** – Does the work put forth a cohesive argument that is well-supported by reference to authoritative sources?
- **Mechanics** – Does the work meet high standards of quality in spelling, grammar, and citation format?